

Village of Windsor, Dane County, WI

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: 2015 - 2020



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Village of Windsor Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: 2015-2020

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Prepared by: Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC

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Overview

Plan Purpose

The primary purpose of Village of Windsor Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: 2015-2020 is to assess the current and future recreational needs in the Village of Windsor with an emphasis on the next five years. Recommendations outlined in the Plan provide rationale and guidance for:

1. Development of new parks;
2. Improvement of existing recreational facilities and development of new facilities;
3. Improvement of existing paths and development of new paths; and
4. Standards for parks by type and size, including typical facilities and amenities.

While the framework for this Plan addresses long-range outdoor recreation needs of the Village of Windsor, the recommendations focus on priorities that can be accomplished within a 5-year timeframe (2015 to 2020).

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan has been prepared in accordance with guidelines outlined by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), and therefore qualifies the Village to compete for grant opportunities administered through the WDNR including two federal programs: the *Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)* and the *Recreational Trails Act (ACA)*; and four Knowles-Nelson Stewardship (state) programs: *Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)*, *Urban Green Space (UGS)*, *Urban Rivers (UR)*, and *Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR)*. As recommended by the WDNR, this plan is intended to be updated every five years to respond to changing park, path and open space needs due to population dynamics and recreation trends. This plan has also been prepared in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes Section 66.0617 and Section 236.29 to serve as the required “public facilities needs assessment” for park and public facility impact fees.

Plan Development Process

The 2015 Plan update began near the end of 2014 with adoption by the Village Board on December 3, 2015. Regular meetings, open to the public, were held with the Board, Plan Commission and the Parks and Recreation Committee. The Parks and Recreation Committee and Village Staff was instrumental in compiling and updating an inventory of existing parks and facilities as well as providing continuous feedback on Plan components.

In addition, an online survey was administered to gather public feedback regarding existing and potential future facilities. The survey results have helped shape this plan and continue to guide decision-making as it pertains to Windsor facilities over the next 5+ years. The web link was posted on the Village website, emailed to residents that were part of the Village E-Notify list, included in a Village newsletter, and distributed through local youth sports organizations. The survey questions and results are located in the Appendix, while the highlights are discussed as part of the Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment in this Plan.

Review of Relevant Plans

Town of Windsor Comprehensive Plan: 2035 (2015)

The Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan is a companion to the recently updated Town of Windsor Comprehensive Plan: 2035. The Comprehensive Plan, and specifically the Utilities and Communities Facilities Chapter, supports the goals, objectives, and recommendations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Town of Windsor Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan builds on previous Plans including:

- Town of Windsor Park and Open Space Plan: 2002-2006 (2011); and
- Town of Windsor Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2007)

This Plan is an update to the 2007 Plan with an increased focus on existing park inventories, planned capital improvements, and ongoing facility maintenance.

Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan (2011)

The Token Creek Conservancy is roughly 190 acres of publicly owned land located in the Village of Windsor along the Token Creek. Token Creek is the primary contributor of water to the Yahara River and consequentially is the largest contributor to the water of Madison's Lake Mendota. Windsor's initial purchase came in 1999 when over a million dollars was raised to remove an old dam and mill pond to free up the stream and springs of the Token Creek. Since then additional lands have been purchased or donated to make up the property we now know as the Token Creek Conservancy and they are: Revere Trails Conservancy, Big Hill, Old Mill Site, DNR Ponds, Raintree Conservancy, and the Elmer and Edna Culver Conservancy.

Today the Token Creek Conservancy Committee manages the property under a set of guidelines in the Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan which was adopted in 2011 and amended in 2012. General policies, goals, and future planning are part of the Master Plan. A few key components

are included as part of this Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation Plan document.

Village of DeForest Park and Open Space Plan: 2015-2019 (2015)

The Village's recent Plan update recognizes several key issues at the forefront of the planning process which included:

- Improvements that would enhance the quality of and access to the Yahara River for recreation;
- Recognition that public-private partnerships play a key role in park maintenance and programming;
- Additional support facilities such as restrooms, consistent park signage and wayfinding, and concessions were needed throughout the park system;
- A community center/aquatic facility as the most requested new facility; and
- Completing the links between existing parks and paths.

The Village is studying development of a Community Park/athletic facility in the near term. Options for location include: south of Innovation Drive, southwest of Conservancy Way/north of Windsor Road, and north of CTH V in the Country View Development.

Many planned improvements over the next five years in the park system address the key issues mentioned above. The Village also plans to update the Master Plan for Fireman's Park, the Village's only Community Park in 2015.

Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan: 2012 - 2017 (2012)

Although there are no County parks within the Village of Windsor, the nearest is Token Creek County Park which is less than a mile south of the Village, just east of US 51 and adjacent to the Village of DeForest's southern boundary. Dane County is planning two new parks (since the 2006 Plan) with one to be centrally located in the northeast quadrant of the County based on projected residential growth in this area.

The County Plan also identifies three (3) natural resource areas within the Village. According to the County Plan: *A natural resource area consists of land that is specifically set aside for the protection of a valuable natural environment and/or greenbelt corridor that were identified through a public process. This can include habitat protection and open space preservation. Recreation at natural resource areas is a secondary objective, and users are encouraged to enjoy the resource as is. Passive recreation activities dominate the site use. If at all, active recreation only takes place on the fringes or in small pockets (areas) of a natural resource area. Natural resource areas may include off-road regional trails*

and surrounding lands belonging to another category, such as recreation parks or wildlife areas.

These include: Cherokee Marsh Natural Resource Area (City of Madison, Village of Windsor, Towns of Burke and Westport, 3,722.9 acres): The area includes the historic boundaries west of Interstate 90-94 and east of STH 113. Public ownership is a mixture of City of Madison, Dane County, and WDNR owned lands. The City of Madison has been conducting extensive vegetation and wetland management efforts on the south side of the river. Dane County has been working on removal of invasive species and prairie restoration on the north side of the river.

Recommendations:

- Explore creation of a land-based trail that provides connections to Token Creek Park and the Upper Yahara River Natural Resource Area;
- Continue vegetation management practices;
- Investigate allowing hunting on county lands adjacent to WDNR public hunting grounds where compatible with other park uses; and
- Continue working with the Friends of Cherokee Marsh, City of Madison, and WDNR on acquiring lands within the project area boundary.

Token Creek Natural Resource Area (Village of Windsor, Town of Burke, 890.3 acres): The boundary is generally defined as Interstate 90-94 on the western edge and extending along the creek to CTH C. The dam was removed from the mill pond in 2004, and the WDNR has been actively working on restoration efforts to enhance habitat and water quality of the stream. Token Creek is the only cold water fishery in the northeast quadrant of Dane County.

Recommendations:

- Continue working with WDNR and other non-profit conservation organizations on streambank restoration and fish habitat improvement projects;
- Dane County would work toward acquiring lands north and east of Token Creek Park to STH 19. Local units of government and/or non-profit conservation organizations would work on protection of lands from STH 19 east to the mill pond either through dedication or acquisition. These agencies would be eligible to apply for partial funding through the Dane County Conservation Fund grant program; and
- Begin implementation of the 2011 master plan.

Yahara Headwater Natural Resource Area (Village of DeForest, Village of Windsor, 496.0 acres): The project area

aims to provide water quality and wildlife habitat buffers for the upper reaches of the Yahara River. The Village of DeForest is supportive of this proposed initiative and could likely be a future conservation partner. The Wisconsin DNR, Natural Heritage Land Trust and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are also potential future conservation partners in the region. There is high potential for grassland habitat restoration work along the river corridor and associated floodplain areas that extend just north of the Village of DeForest to the County line. This project area is ecologically connected to the WDNR Land Legacy Arlington Prairie property that includes deep soil prairie and prairie pothole remnants that once covered most of north central Dane County and south central Columbia County.

In terms of trail/path connections, Dane County's Regional Trail map shows a proposed off-road bike/pedestrian trail extending north from Token Creek County Park into the Village and splitting north of the Token Creek Natural Resource Area. Here, one part of the proposed trail heads east through the Village (Token Creek County Park to Riley Deppe County Park), while the other moves northwest and connects the Token Creek County Park to the Yahara Headwaters Natural Resource Area and Yahara Heights County Park (Upper Yahara River Trail).

According to the Plan, the County's role is to develop off road regional trails within project areas. Regional trails extending outside of these areas would be developed by the local governments. The County may consider partnering with local governments to utilize County staff and equipment to develop off road regional trails identified in this plan by formal agreement.

The Planning Region

The Village of Windsor (Dane County, Wisconsin) encompasses approximately 34 square miles. The landscape is largely rural in character, and the vast majority of the Village is dedicated to agricultural use. The Village shares borders with the City of Sun Prairie, the Village of DeForest, and the Towns of Burke, Bristol, Vienna, Westport, and Leeds (Columbia County). Windsor lies approximately 1.5 miles to the northernmost boundary of the City of Madison.

Social Characteristics

The following select demographic and housing data is focused on population and housing trends in order to guide decision-making as it relates to park, open space, and path improvements in the Village of Windsor. Additional detailed demographics and data can be found in the Village of Windsor Comprehensive Plan.

Population

Population in the Village of Windsor has increased over the last 30 years, however, it has not been a steady increase.

Population Projections

Village of Windsor

	Total	% Change
2010 (Census)	6,345	
2013 (Estimate)	6,549	3.2%
2015	6,720	2.6%
2020	7,175	6.8%
2025	7,635	6.4%
2030	8,055	5.5%
2035	8,380	4.0%

Source: Division of Intergovernmental Relations, Wisconsin DOA

Population

	Dane County		City of Madison		City of Sun Prairie		Village of DeForest		Adjacent Towns*		Village of Windsor	
	Total	% Change	Total	% Change	Total	% Change	Total	% Change	Total	% Change	Total	% Change
1970	290,272		171,809		9,935		1,911		8,311		2,415	
1980	323,545	11.5%	170,616	-0.7%	12,931	30.2%	3,367	76.2%	10,793	29.9%	3,812	57.8%
1990	367,085	13.5%	190,766	11.8%	15,352	18.7%	4,882	45.0%	10,757	-0.3%	4,620	21.2%
2000	426,526	16.2%	208,054	9.1%	20,369	32.7%	7,368	50.9%	12,876	19.7%	5,286	14.4%
2010	488,073	14.4%	233,209	12.1%	29,364	44.2%	8,936	21.3%	12,481	-3.1%	6,345	20.0%

* Average Data for Towns of Westport, Burke, Bristol, and Vienna

Source: U.S. Census

Age

	Dane County		City of Madison		City of Sun Prairie		Village of DeForest		Adjacent Towns*		Village of Windsor	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
0-9	60,114	12.3%	24,902	10.7%	4,868	16.6%	1,373	15.4%	382	12.2%	863	13.6%
10-19	61,742	12.6%	26,465	11.4%	3,894	13.3%	1,403	15.7%	418	13.4%	805	13.4%
20-34	126,105	25.9%	80,552	34.5%	6,731	22.9%	1,614	18.1%	389	12.5%	1,043	16.4%
35-54	133,593	27.4%	54,657	23.4%	8,427	28.7%	2,900	32.4%	1,009	32.3%	1,974	31.2%
55-64	56,375	11.6%	24,250	10.4%	2,836	9.6%	873	9.7%	479	15.3%	855	13.5%
65-84	42,370	8.8%	18,586	8.0%	2,172	7.4%	682	7.7%	395	12.7%	666	10.5%
85+	7,774	1.6%	3,797	1.6%	436	1.5%	91	1.0%	50	1.6%	94	1.5%
Median Age	34.4		30.9		33.3		35.6		43.3		39.8	

* Average Data for Towns of Westport, Burke, Bristol, and Vienna

Source: American Community Survey 2008-2012 (Dec 2013 Release)

Housing

Occupancy and Tenure

	Dane County		City of Madison		City of Sun Prairie		Village of DeForest		Adjacent Towns*		Village of Windsor	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
Housing Units	216,027		108,843		12,413		3,499		1,281		2,548	
Occupied Units	204,008	94.4%	102,516	94.2%	11,636	93.7%	3,400	97.2%	1,217	95.0%	2,432	95.4%
Vacant Units (Total)	12,019	5.6%	6,327	5.8%	777	6.3%	99	2.8%	64	5.0%	116	4.6%
Vacant Units (Seasonal)	1,811	0.8%	646	0.6%	38	0.3%	5	0.1%	15	1.2%	14	0.5%
Owner-Occupied (Occupied Units)	121,509	59.6%	50,555	49.3%	7,209	62.0%	2,432	71.5%	1,011	79.0%	1,920	78.9%
Renter-Occupied (Occupied Units)	82,241	40.4%	51,961	50.7%	4,427	38.0%	968	28.5%	205	16.1%	512	21.1%
2000 Avg Household Size (Owner-Occ)	2.61		2.4		2.99		3		3.03		3.09	
2000 Avg Household Size (Renter-Occ)	2.03		2		2.37		2.43		2.71		2.55	
2010 Avg Household Size(Owner-Occ)	2.52		2.3		2.7		2.79		2.8		2.69	
2010 Avg Household Size(Renter-Occ)	2.05		2		2.21		2.23		2.5		2.31	

* Average Data for Towns of Westport, Burke, Bristol, and Vienna

Source: American Community Survey 2008-2012 (Dec 2013 Release)

Housing Demand

Year	Population Projection	Population Change	New Units*
2013	6,549		
2015	6,720	171	66
2020	7,175	455	174
2025	7,635	460	176
2030	8,055	420	161
2035	8,380	325	125
			702

*2.61 persons per household (accounting for weighted own/rent household data)

Source: U.S. Census and Wisconsin DOA

Between 1970 and 1980 the population increased by 1,397, which is roughly the total increase between the next two decades (1980 to 2000), while an increase of 1,059 was seen from 2000 to 2010. Population growth in Windsor has significantly outpaced surrounding towns between 2000 and 2010. The Village of DeForest experienced a similar pattern, but has grown at a much faster rate than the Windsor over the 40-year period shown in the table. In 1970 Windsor had 500 more people than the DeForest, in the year 2010 roughly 2,600 fewer.

The City of Sun Prairie and City of Madison populations have steadily increased after 1980. The City of Madison lost population between 1970 and 1980, the same years that Windsor, DeForest and surrounding towns gained population most dramatically. The population of Dane County as a whole has increased steadily over the last 40 years.

The population estimate for the Village in 2013 is 6,549 persons (3.2% increase from 2010). By 2035, population is projected as 8,380 by the Wisconsin DOA. This is a population increase of roughly 83 people per year between 2013 and 2035.

Age

In 2010, just over a quarter of Windsor's population was 19 years old and younger, while in 2000, over 30% were in this age group. In 2010, about half the population was between 20 and 54, and the remaining quarter was 55 and older. The median age in Windsor was 39.8 in 2010, 36.7 in 2000 and 31.8 in 1990. This shift in the median age is consistent with surrounding towns and the larger aging population trends in the state and country.

Occupancy Characteristics and Household Size

Of the 2,548 housing units in 2010, 78.9% were owner-occupied (79.6% in 2000), while 21.1% were renter-occupied (18.2% in 2000). The average owner-occupied household size was 2.69 persons (3.09 in 1990), while renter-occupied households averaged 2.31 persons (2.55 in 1990).

The percentage of owner-occupied housing and household size of owner-occupied units in Windsor is comparable to surrounding towns. The percentage of owner-occupied units generally decreases in surrounding urban areas.

Housing Composition

82.8% of the housing units in the Village of Windsor are single-family (87.1% in 2000), 0.7 % are two-family (6.5% in 2000) and 16.6% are 3+family structures (6.3% in 2000).

87.2% of the housing structures in adjacent towns are single-family, 0.7% are two-family and 12.0% are 3+family structures.

73.4% of the housing structures in the Village of DeForest are single-family, 4.9% are two-family and 21.6% are 3+family structures.

Recent Growth

From 2004 to 2013, 462 housing unit permits have been issued in the Village of Windsor (an average of 46 per year). Of those, 33.1% have been for units in structures for two or more families. This represents a higher ratio of 2+ family structures to single-family structures than the current composition in the Village, which is 82.8% single-family and 17.2% two-family or more.

Of the permits issued in adjacent towns from 2004 to 2013, only 3.4% have been for units in structures for 2+ families. This number was 33.1% in the Village of DeForest, 60.8% in the City of Sun Prairie, 75.9% in the City of Madison, and 57.0% in Dane County.

Future Demand

Population projections form the basis for determining the amount of land to be planned for residential use. In conjunction with household size, it is possible to project the number of residential units that would be demanded in 5-year increments.

By 2035, an additional 702 housing units could be expected in the Village based on WDOA projections. This, however, is only a forecast based on current data. Population projections and household size should be continually monitored and updated at least every five years.

An alternate way to predict the demand for housing units is to examine the historic building permit trends. Between 2004 and 2013 an average of 46 permits (units) were issued per year. Based on this average, 966 additional housing units might be built by 2035.

It would be fair to assume the number of new housing units in the Village of Windsor by 2035 could fall between 702 and 966.

Physical Characteristics

New development in the Village is largely restricted to areas in the western and southern zones (land west of US Highway 51 and land east of US Highway 51, but south of Windsor Road). Since these growth areas are designated for suburban-density residential uses, the majority of park, open space and path development has and will continue to be directed to these areas of Windsor.

Natural Resources

The Village's relationship with its natural surroundings provides a valuable point of reference for park, path and open space planning efforts. Understanding the location and

condition of natural resources suggests possible locations and types of recreational facilities and uses.

Natural features and resources are commonly characterized by physical linkages that represent connected systems. Typically referred to as “environmental corridors,” these resources include drainage-ways and stream channels, floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes and ridgelines.

Maintaining a high degree of connectivity is an important goal of natural resource and ecological preservation. Furthermore, a continuous system of “greenspace” provides opportunities for the establishment of linear parks and regional recreational path systems for passive- or nature-based recreation. Specifically, natural resource features include the following:

- All waterways and water bodies, including lakes, ponds, intermittent and perennial streams, and drainage ways;
- Vegetated buffer strips along drainageways, streams, lakes, and wetlands;
- 100-year floodplains;
- Mapped wetlands (DNR Wisconsin Wetland Inventory);
- Steep slopes (12% or greater);
- Woodlands;
- Existing and proposed parks, greenways, conservancy areas, stormwater management areas; and
- Areas of unique vegetation or geology.

Protecting sensitive natural resources that maintain a high level of connectivity is an effective means for protecting water quality, preserving wildlife habitats, providing outdoor recreation opportunities and enhancing the scenic beauty that characterizes the Village of Windsor. The following is a summary of natural features in the Village. Additional information can be found in Chapter 5 of the Village of Windsor Comprehensive Plan.

Water Bodies and Drainages

The majority of the Village is geographically located in the Upper Yahara River Lake Mendota Watershed and generally slopes from the north and east to the south and west. Within the Village drainage flows in two basins: (1) the Yahara River, flowing north to south and draining northwestern portions of the Village; and (2) Token Creek, flowing east to west and draining the southeastern half of the Village. Token Creek has a significantly larger flow than the Yahara River and is the single largest source of water of Lake Mendota. The Upper Yahara-Mendota Watershed was designated in 1995 as a Priority Watershed by the Wisconsin DNR and is eligible for

funding of projects that seek to improve water quality and access.

Yahara River: The Yahara River flows from its origin in Morrisonville through several stretches of farmland developed portions of the Village of DeForest before entering the Cherokee Marsh north of Lake Mendota. The Upper Yahara River and its upper watershed areas have been designated as a “Land Legacy Study” priority area by the WDNR.

Token Creek: Token Creek begins east of the Village of Windsor and flows through farmed areas, the wetlands of former Token Creek Mill Pond, and the Token Creek County Park before it joins the Yahara River in Cherokee Marsh. Much of the Token Creek flow transpires from a series of large coldwater springs that emerge in the former mill pond wetlands on the north side of the stream, and in smaller tributaries downstream from the wetlands. The creek bottom is characterized by sands and gravels covered by silt deposits and the stream can support coldwater fishery species such as brown and brook trout.

The Village, with the WDNR and the US Army Corps of Engineers, acquired lands that comprised the former Token Creek Mill Pond. Since then, the dam has been removed and ecological restoration of the drainage will improve and help sustain a native brook trout fishery. Token Creek represents a viable recreation resource, due to preservation measures, access, and adjacency to Token Creek County Park.

Floodplains

Extensive floodplains are located along the Yahara River and Token Creek in the Village, and comprise lands which have been or may be covered by floodwater during a regional flood. The floodplain includes both the floodway and flood fringe districts. In general, floodplains and associated vegetation resources are protected through County regulations which prohibit development within the General Floodplain District. Floodplains represent an important public resource as they represent a connected system of water and land. Therefore, these resources are important in the establishment of a joined open space system that could potentially support recreational paths in adjacent upland areas.

Wetlands

Wetlands are generally distributed in low-lying areas in the Village of Windsor that are within or adjacent to water bodies and drainages. Small tributaries to the Yahara River and Token Creek that include both perennial and intermittent drainage ways also support hydrophytic vegetation that typically characterizes wetlands.

Preservation of wetlands can contribute to the value of conserved natural areas due to a range of ecological benefits

that they provide. Additionally, wetlands that are contiguous to floodplains and woodlands assist to physically extend environmental values of the natural landscape.

Woodlands

The rural landscape of Windsor is characterized by large expanses of open agricultural land occasionally interrupted by remnant woodland resources. The majority of woodlands are affiliated with wetlands, streams and sloped topography, and are, in large part, protected by wetland and floodplain development restrictions. The most significant woodlands are located along the Token Creek and Yahara River drainage basins, and the upland oak-hickory woodland of the “Big Hill.” As such, remaining woodlands contribute to scenic quality, wildlife habitat, air and water quality, as well as passive recreation.

Landforms, Ridgetops and Viewsheds

The Village landscape is characterized by gently rolling terrain without steep slopes (exceeding 12%). Limited steep slopes occur along portions of the Token Creek drainage and the “Big Hill” (near Portage Road and Hwy 19). Most of Big Hill was bequeathed to the Village as part of the Token Creek acquisition efforts in 2000.

Ridges represent open space features since they provide and define the limits of views. The Village of Windsor occupies one of the highest areas in northern Dane County: to the north, expansive views of the vast “Arlington Prairie” serve to supplement the sense of agricultural character of the Village; views to the south include various features of the Madison metropolitan area including the State Capitol on the southwest horizon.

The protection of viewsheds and ridgetops typically represent a prominent goal of open space programs due to their visual sensitivity and potential for visual disruption. Additionally, these resources represent an important landscape feature to be considered in locating future path systems.

Goals and Objectives

Mission Statement

The goals and objectives outlined in this Plan are intended to guide the maintenance, improvement, and development of Windsor's parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities.

Goal 1

Provide ample, diverse, and accessible parks, conservancies, paths, and recreation facilities to meet the current and future needs of Windsor residents.

Objectives

1. Maintain a service standard of approximately 15 acres of improved, developed parkland per 1,000 residents (equivalent to about 4 acres per 100 dwelling units).
2. Provide park, conservancy, path, and recreational facility opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities.
3. Explore opportunities for year-round recreational facilities and programs.
4. Ensure that future parks and conservancies are integrated into neighborhoods and linked by multi-purpose paths or sidewalks where possible.
5. Ensure that parks and conservancies have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods and public rights-of-way by multi-purpose paths or sidewalks.
6. Ensure that all parks and conservancies are designed with a public right-of-way along at least one side of the park or conservancy for adequate visual access.
7. Design new recreation facilities to meet the requirements of the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA).
8. Promote resident awareness of Windsor's parks, conservancies, paths, and recreation facilities.

Goal 2

To the greatest extent possible, distribute parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities in an equitable manner throughout Windsor.

Objectives

1. Encourage that all residential neighborhoods are within one-half mile walking distance of either a

neighborhood or community park, and are accessible by multi-purpose paths and/or sidewalks without having to cross an arterial street, collector street, or physical barrier.

2. Encourage the establishment of pocket-parks to serve residential neighborhoods, but primarily as a compliment to neighborhood parks.

Goal 3

Provide both active and passive recreational opportunities for Windsor residents.

Objectives

1. Pursue the development of community parks (10 acres or more) that will provide playing fields to meet the needs of user groups and youth organizations.
2. Pursue the development of neighborhood parks (3-5 acres) in conjunction with residential subdivision developments. Utilize methods of "land-banking" or contiguous parkland dedication from adjoining private subdivision developments to achieve this objective.
3. Where possible, incorporate environmentally sensitive areas within neighborhood and community parks for a passive recreational experience.

Goal 4

Evaluate the need to develop new parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities with the need to maintain and improve existing parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities.

Objective

1. Establish a Capital Improvement Plan with respect to annual maintenance and operation costs and future improvement and development expenditures for Windsor's parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities.

Goal 5

Develop a network of multi-purpose paths that link residential neighborhood developments and schools with parks, conservancies, and recreational facilities.

Objectives

1. Work with Dane County, Village of DeForest, and the City of Sun Prairie to establish a comprehensive path system for residents of all ages and abilities.
2. Encourage the construction of bicycle lanes or multi-purpose paths as part of roadway and bridge

improvement projects.

3. Encourage developers to dedicate land or easements for multi-purpose paths and/or sidewalks within residential subdivision developments.
4. Establish path signage that enables way finding by users.

Goal 6

Preserve, protect, and enhance the conservancy areas in a manner that contributes to the long-term value of Windsor.

Objectives

1. Incorporate environmentally sensitive areas (i.e. wetlands, steep slopes, woodlands, floodplains, etc.) into conservancies to the greatest extent feasible.
2. Promote the importance of conservancy areas, in particular the Token Creek Conservancy, as an active and passive recreational opportunity.
3. Develop criteria and evaluate priorities for acquiring land for conservation. Include recommendations to guide the restoration, maintenance, and monitoring of the conservancy.
4. Provide access to recreation facilities within conservancy areas in a manner that does not adversely impact resources.

Goal 7

Promote cooperative planning with surrounding units of government, user groups, youth organizations, and developers to meet Windsor's needs for parks, conservancies, paths, and recreational facilities.

Objectives

1. Encourage shared use of recreational facilities with the DeForest Area School District.
2. Collaborate with user groups and youth organizations to define mutually compatible recreational facility needs and mechanisms for the maintenance, improvement, and development these recreational facilities.
3. Continue to work with the Token Creek Conservancy Committee regarding land acquisition associated with the conservancy and development of any recreational facilities within the conservancy.

Goal 8

Ensure that all new residential subdivision developments comply with the parkland dedication and park improvements as outlined in this Plan and implemented by Windsor's Subdivision Ordinance.

Objectives

1. Require appropriate parkland dedication and park improvements as part of new residential subdivision development through regulatory measures including Windsor's subdivision ordinance.
2. Evaluate on an annual basis the Fees in Lieu of Parkland Dedication and Fees for Initial Improvement of Parkland for new residential subdivision development.

Park and Recreational Standards

Park design standards should be referenced to assure development of a coherent park system and to establish consistency in design and construction of facilities. This section presents suggested design standards for each type of park within Windsor's system. The design standards should be cited when park acreage is proposed for dedication to the Village in order to evaluate the suitability of its terrain, natural features, and location. They should also be referenced when designing the layout and facilities for new parks and when redeveloping existing parks.

National design standards outlined by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) have been noted to provide a quantitative measure for evaluating existing and future park facilities. While national standards delineate benchmarks for park and recreational facility development, local demands, needs and conditions should also be considered. A broad description of each type of park including NRPA standards set forth below:

Parks

Pocket Parks

Pocket-parks (also called mini-parks or tot lots) are typically less than two acres in area and are designed and maintained to provide recreation and "open space" aesthetic benefits. Pocket-parks typically serve the needs of surrounding neighborhood residents and include facilities such as playgrounds, informal small-scale gathering spaces, and multi-use lawn areas for picnics.

Neighborhood Parks

The backbone of any park system is the neighborhood park. These parks should be designed for convenient access by residents and be centrally located to the neighborhood they serve and are typically larger than pocket parks, yet smaller than community parks. Providing spaces for both active, as well as passive experiences, the neighborhood park should safely accommodate playgrounds, multi-use lawn areas for picnics, children's play areas and playgrounds, ball fields, free play areas, picnic tables and benches, and occasionally, basketball courts. Additionally, the parks should be integrated with natural features such as a pond, a group of mature trees, or a wetland. Designs should allow adequate parking on surrounding streets or, if necessary, in a parking lot.

In order to promote public safety, dwelling units should face the park so residents are able to view activities in the park and provide some oversight.

Community Parks

Community Parks are large-scale facilities that are typically 10 acres or greater. Larger areas may be required to meet

land-extensive recreational activities. Amenities may include regulation facilities for organized individual and team sports, including multi-use turf areas for field sports such as softball, baseball, and soccer; and tennis courts. Natural areas, facilities for nature-based recreation, paths and areas designated for passive uses may be included in the layout of community parks.

Outdoor lighting, when included, is designed for minimum interference with adjacent residences. Adequate restrooms, storage rooms, group picnic areas, and children's playgrounds are generally required as a compliment to sports fields. Community parks require ease of access from arterial or collector streets and parking facilities.

Open Space

Open space is a general category that includes all undeveloped land in which fee title or development rights are owned by a municipality, another public agency, or an open space trust or organization. Open space acreage serves multiple purposes that include passive recreation, habitat preservation, and buffering neighborhoods from surrounding uses.

Natural Areas (Conservancy)

Natural Areas, or conservancy lands, represent environmentally sensitive acreage that is protected from development. Natural areas typically include wetlands, creek and river drainages, floodplains, steep slopes, woodlands that provide for wildlife habitat, ecological functioning, and ground water recharge. Limited self-actualized recreation is often appropriate in natural areas.

Neighborhood Greenways

Neighborhood greenways are generally linear parcels inside of development areas that remain in an undeveloped state, and provide for a seamless "green infrastructure" between adjacent neighborhoods. Greenways typically support path facilities that provide a linkage to parks, natural areas and school sites, and are dedicated to a municipality through regulatory means.

Paths

The future development of path facilities should follow general standards that dictate materials, dimension and other characteristics. Four basic types of paths are listed below: include regulation facilities for organized individual and team sports, including multi-use turf areas for field sports such as softball, baseball, and soccer; and tennis courts. Natural areas, facilities for nature-based recreation, paths and areas designated for passive uses may be included in the layout of community parks.

Path Type	Typical Width	Typical Surface	Characteristics
Detached Sidewalks	3' to 8'	Concrete or Asphalt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Separated by buffer from curb• Follows arterial and collector streets with moderate to high volumes of traffic• Frequent vehicular conflicts• Designed for low speed users (pedestrians)
Attached Sidewalks	3' to 8'	Concrete	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Connected to curb• Follows local streets with low to moderate volumes of traffic and arterial streets with high volumes of traffic• Frequent vehicular conflicts• Designed for low speed users (pedestrians)
Multi-Use Paths	10'	Concrete or Asphalt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuous routes with frequent directional signage• Separated from the adjoining roadway and curb• Limited vehicular conflicts• Designed for low and high speed users (walkers, runners, cyclists, in-line skaters, etc.)
Soft-Surface Trails	4' to 8'	Crushed or compacted organic material	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Separated from roadways and land uses• Limited vehicular conflicts• Continuous routes and frequent directional signage• Designed for a variety of users (cyclists, equestrians, hikers, runners, etc.)

	Pocket Parks	Neighborhood Parks
Acreage	¼ up to 2 acres	3 up to 5 acres
Service Area	¼ mile radius (uninterrupted by arterial or collector roads or physical barriers)	½ mile radius
Public Right-of-Way Access	At least one street	At least one street (recommended two or more streets)
Playfields		At least one softball or baseball diamond, or soccer field, football, or lacrosse field
Courts		Optional basketball, tennis, and/or volleyball court
Playground Equipment	Ages 0 to 5	Ages 0 to 5 and ages 5 to 12
Structures		Minor pavilion preferred, portable restrooms recommended
Site Furniture	Standard bench near playground, standard trash receptacle, one picnic table preferable	Standard benches, 3 to 5 picnic tables, trash receptacles, and drinking fountain
Natural Features		Preferred including wetlands, ponds, streams, and mature trees where inclusion of features allow enough area for active uses
Trails	Connect to neighborhood/community/regional system where practical	Connect to neighborhood/community/regional system. Provide internal paths where possible
Signage	Minor park sign	Major park sign
Additional Amenities/ Special Features	Shade trees near play equipment and landscaping near public right-of-way	Shade trees near play equipment and picnic areas. Landscaping near public rights-of-way and structures/picnic areas
Parking	On-street parking adjacent to park.	On-street parking adjacent to park. Off-street parking lots where possible to be located and/or screened to minimize impact on surrounding neighborhood

Windsor Park Standards

Following are standards specific to the Village of Windsor intended to guide the development of future parks based on park type. The standards provide recommendations for various park attributes including size, service area and access, as well as typical facilities and amenities.

Community Parks

Conservancies

At least 10 acres recommended	At least 5 acres recommended
1 ½ mile radius	
At least one street (recommended two or more streets)	At least one street
Two or more softball or baseball diamonds, or soccer field, football, or lacrosse fields	
At least one basketball, tennis and/or volleyball court recommended (lighted preferred)	
Ages 0 to 5, ages 5 to 12, and ages 13+	
Integrate pavilions with picnic areas or high points, restrooms integrated with pavilions/structures	Shelters near parking area where they does not impact natural features and views
Standard benches, at least 5 picnic tables, trash receptacles, and drinking fountain	Limited benches along paths located to take advantage of views and vistas
Preferred including wetlands, ponds, streams, and mature trees where inclusion of features allow enough area for active uses	Including wetlands, ponds, streams, mature trees, prairies, and other natural features to be protected
Connect to neighborhood/community/regional system. Provide internal paths	Connect to neighborhood/community/regional system. Provide extensive internal paths
Major park sign	Major park sign at access points and educational signage at appropriate locations
Shade trees near play equipment and picnic areas. Landscaping near public rights-of-way and structures/picnic areas. Natural features should be a prominent feature of the park where possible	Promote opportunities for wildlife viewing, education, and fishing where possible
Combination of on-street parking and off-street lot(s). Lots should be located and/or screened to minimize impact on surrounding neighborhood	On-street parking and small off-street parking lots that do not impact natural features and views. Lots should be located to minimize impact to any surrounding residential uses

Outdoor Recreation Inventory

Overview

The Village's existing recreational facilities includes almost 90 acres of active park land and 266 acres of conservancies. These recreational lands are characterized by a range of standard amenities that include children's play equipment, ball fields, open picnic shelters, paths, and natural areas.

Additionally, some 49 acres of park land and 65 acres of conservancy have been proposed as part of future residential neighborhoods that are currently undergoing development review or have been recently approved. Based on existing and proposed/planned park acreage, it is anticipated that the Village of Windsor will have approximately 139 acres of active park land in the next 5 to 10 years.

Many of the Village of Windsor neighborhoods currently enjoy access to multi-use paths. These are primarily located in the Holland Fields, Sunset Meadows, Windsor Ridge, Wolf Hollow, and Prairie Creek neighborhoods. In addition, the Token Creek Conservancy contains a network of walking/hiking paths. Although there is some connectivity between paths, there is great opportunity to expand the recreational path system within existing neighborhoods, planned neighborhoods, and increase connections with the Village of DeForest, City of Sun Prairie and the wider region.

Park Profiles

The following pages are profiles of the Village of Windsor Parks and Conservancies organized by Pocket Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, and Conservancies. The following information is detailed for each:

- Facility summary - an inventory of facilities and amenities;
- Facility details - summary of the maintenance program, whether the facilities have rental availability, and any organizations that regularly use the facilities;
- Facility issues and challenges - items to address through facility improvements and/or policy; and
- Facility improvements - Recommended improvements based on response to issues and challenges and the analysis in the Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment and Recommendations chapters of this Plan.

RESERVED FOR PARK SYSTEM MAP

RESERVED FOR PARK SYSTEM MAP

RESERVED FOR PATHS MAP

RESERVED FOR PATHS MAP

Existing Parks	Acreage
Pocket Parks	
Balsam Bay	0.82
Bull Run Park	0.50
Kimberly Way Park	2.00
Morrisonville Childrens Park	0.40
Oak Springs South #1	1.94
Oak Springs North #2	2.18
Old Amsterdam Park (Holland Fields)	0.86
Terrace Park	2.20
Traveler Trail Park (Windsor Corners)	0.50
Windsor Blue Park	1.94
Windsor Hill Park	2.73
Windsor Meadows Park	1.10
Wolf Hollow Grosbeak Glen Park	0.50
Pocket Parks Subtotal	17.67
Neighborhood Parks	
Cradle Hill Park	3.40
Millstone Heights Park	3.94
Sunset Meadow Park	4.49
Windsor Gardens Park	5.00
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal	16.83
Community Parks	
Morrisonville Ball Park	5.70
Windsor Firemans Park	16.48
Windsor Sports Commons	34.98
Community Parks Subtotal	57.16
Conservancies	
Holland Fields Conservancy	31.95
Prairie Creek Conservancy	74.81
Token Creek Conservancy	190.76
Big Hill (51.38ac), DNR Ponds (5.00ac), Elmer & Edna Culver Conservancy (90.15ac), Old Mill Site (4.62ac), Raintree Conservancy (4.25ac), Revere Trails Conservancy (35.36)	
Conservancies Subtotal	297.52
TOTAL	389.18

Proposed Parks	Acreage
Pocket Parks	
Bear Tree Outlot 6	0.24
Pleasant Hill Estates Outlot 2	0.79
Windsor Crossing Park	0.00
Windsor Gardens Outlot 1	1.03
Windsor Gardens Outlot 2	3.55
Windsor Gardens Outlot 3	3.22
Wolf Hollow Outlot 2	1.81
Pocket Parks Subtotal	10.64
Neighborhood Parks	
Bear Tree Outlot 5	4.90
Bear Tree Outlot 8	3.46
Prairie Creek Outlots 4 & 5 + Pleasant Hill Estates Outlot 1	8.07
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal	16.43
Community Parks	
Bear Tree Outlot 2	20.14
Windsor Sports Commons Expansion	40.32
Community Parks Subtotal	60.46
Conservancies	
Windsor Crossing Conservancy	16.19
Windsor Gardens Conservancy	37.25
Wolf Hollow Outlot 2	11.25
Conservancies Subtotal	64.69
TOTAL	152.22

Balsam Bay

Balsam Bay Parkway is located at 6504 Linden Circle, Windsor, WI 53598 and contains 0.82 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the south (Linden Circle). Balsam Bay Parkway primarily provides a passive setting and access to Lake Windsor. Fishing along the shoreline is permitted.

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment

- N/A

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench: in-ground
- Fishing

Parking

- N/A

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Signage is not consistent with established Windsor standard

Facility Improvements

- Add new entrance signage
- Add new shoreline signage
- Add one (1) additional bench near water
- Add fishing pier

Bull Run Park

Bull Run Park is located at 6900 Valiant Drive, Windsor, WI 53598 and contains 0.50 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the east (Valiant Drive) and south (Southwind Circle and Windsor Road).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment (1997)

- Playstructure: (coated/within safe area)
- EZ Digger (within safe area)
- Sandbox (within safe area)
- Spring toy: horse & dinosaur (within safe area)
- Swing structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats (within safe area)

Structures

- Shelter with electricity/water fountain

Additional Amenities

- Bench: in-ground (coated/tan/no back)
- Bench: in-ground (perforated steel/green/with back/next to safe area)
- Memorial monument
- Picnic table: 2 (coated)
- Signage (wood)
- Trash receptable (plastic)
- Water fountain (ADA accessible)

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch, replace/add trees



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Need restroom/Port-A-John
- Trash Receptacle

Facility Improvements

- Add safe area border
- Add path access signage at Windsor Road

Kimberly Way Park

Kimberly Way Park is located at 6540 Kimberly Way, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 2.00 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the north (Kimberly Way).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment

- N/A

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Picnic table (wood)
- Sign (wood)
- Landscaping: small trees
- Memorial monument
- Wildlife viewing

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds



Facility Issues & Challenges

- South side of park near storm water retention area is sometimes flooded
- Large berm near ditch adjacent to road

Facility Improvements

- Add playground equipment
- Add foot bridge
- Add bench on berm

Morrisonville Childrens Park

Morrisonville Childrens Park is located at 4670 CTH DM, Morrisonville, WI 53571 and contains 0.40 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the north (CTH DM).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Basketball court (half court/1 hoop)

Playground Equipment

- Climbing bars (within safe area)
- Sandbox
- Slide (coated) (2000)
- Spring toy: chipmunk and elephant (within safe area) (2008)
- Swing structure: 4 adult seats
- Swing structure: 2 tot seats (within safe area)

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 2 (in-ground/coated/perforated/with back)
- Bike rack (2008)
- Fencing (chain link)
- Picnic table (wood)
- Signage (wood)
- Wildlife viewing
- Mature trees

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Lots of trees / shade
- Grass is sparse
- Mosquitos

Facility Improvements

- NA

Oak Springs South #1

Oak Springs South #1 Park is located at 4524 Oak Springs Circle, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 1.94 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via narrow strips of land on public rights-of-way from the west (S Hill Road), north (Prairie Place), and south (Oak Springs Circle).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment

- Merry-go-round
- Swing Structure: 2 adult seats
- Swing Structure: 2 tot seats

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench (wood/painted green)
- Picnic table (wood)
- Landscaping: perimeter trees
- Signage (wood)

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Signage needed, park not visible from public right-of-way

Facility Improvements

- Add volleyball poles/net (youth/adult)
- Add play structure

Oak Springs North #2

Oak Springs North #2 Park is located at 4495 Meadowwood Circle, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 2.18 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via narrow strips of land on public rights-of-way from the west (S Hill Road), north (Meadowwood Circle), and south (Prairie Court).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball playfield (backstop)

Playground Equipment

- Bell climber
- Spring toy: 2 horses
- Swing Structure: 4 adult seats
- Swing Structure: 2 tot seats
- Swing Structure: 1 tire swing

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench (metal)
- Picnic table (wood)
- Landscaping: perimeter trees

Parking

- N/A

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth organizations: Windsor Heat Softball
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, spray/pull weeds in sand area



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Three entrances not adequately marked
- Aging equipment

Facility Improvements

- Add soccer field or gym system
- Add new sign at Meadowwood entrance (2-sided)
- Add culvert at Meadowwood entrance
- Add new play structure

Old Amsterdam Park (Holland Fields)

Old Amsterdam Park (Holland Fields) is located at 6879 Old Amsterdam Way, DeForest WI 53532 and contains 0.86 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via right-of-way from the east (Old Amsterdam Way). Old Amsterdam Park is adjacent to Holland Fields Conservancy.

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment

- N/A

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 2 (coated)
- Picnic table (coated)
- Landscaping: large mature trees, wetlands
- Singage (wood)
- Wildlife viewing
- Mature trees

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, tree maintenance as needed



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Three stumps need to be ground out

Facility Improvements

- Add trash receptacle
- Add wood boardwalk/decking for wildlife viewing

Terrace Park

Terrace Park is located at 6648 Forest Park Drive, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 2.20 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the west (Forest Park Drive) and east (Token Way).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball playfield (backstop/small practice field)
- Player benches: 2
- Volleyball court (poles/sand/grass)

Playground Equipment

- Balance beam
- EZ Digger
- Kid Beam Koaster: 12'
- Playstructure: Metal (with 3 slides/age 5-12) (1996)
- Spring toy: cycle
- Swing Structure: 4 adult seats
- Swing Structure: 2 tot seats

Structures

- Shelter with trash receptacle/swinging seat

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 3 (wood)
- Picnic table: 2 (coated)
- Restrooms (Port-A-John)
- Signage
- Mature trees

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth organizations: DeForest Parks and Recreation and WD Baseball
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Parking limited to road. Potential for off-street parking on west side by filling ditch/using culverts
- Play structure worn and chipped

Facility Improvements

- Add dug out benches
- Add bleachers
- Skin infield for baseball
- Add fencing
- Add off-street parking
- Add new play structure

Traveler Trail Park (Windsor Corners)

Traveler Trail Park (Windsor Corners) is located at 6619 Traveler Trail, Windsor, WI 53598 and contains 0.50 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the west (Traveler Trail).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment (2013)

- Playstructure: Play Booster (age 5-12/within safe area)
- Swing Structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats (within safe area)
- Whipser Tunnel Talk Tubes (within safe area)
- Tuff Timber Board (within safe area)

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench (coated)
- Picnic table (coated)
- Signage (new design)
- Trash receptacle

Parking

- N/A

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- N/A

Facility Improvements

- N/A

Windsor Hill Park

Windsor Hill Park is located at 6955 Portage Road, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 2.73 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the west (Partridge Road), north (Finch Trail), and east (Portage Road).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball playfield (backstop)

Playground Equipment

- EZ Digger
- Merry-go-round (2004)
- Playstructure (wood/slide/fort/2 adult swings/2 tot swings/tire swing) (2003)
- Slide tube (coated)
- Spring toy: horse
- Swing structure: 2 tot seats (2004)

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench (in-ground/coated/with back/red)
- Bench (in-ground/coated/with back/blue)
- Picnic table (coated)
- Signage (wood)
- Mature Trees

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Play structure needs maintenance
- Replace safe area sand with mulch

Facility Improvements

- Add new play structure
- Add new safe area

Windsor Meadows Park

Windsor Meadows Park is located at 6990 Gray Road, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 1.10 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the south (Gray Road).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball playfield (backstop/youth)
- Volleyball court (poles/grass)

Playground Equipment (2000)

- EZ Digger
- Sandbox
- Slide tube (within safe area)
- Spring toy: dolphin and sea horse
- Swing structure: 3 adult seats/1 tot seat
- Super Satellite Climber (age 5-12/within safe area)

Structures

- Shelter with trash receptacle (1996)

Additional Amenities

- Picnic table: 2 (coated)
- Signage
- Trash receptacle
- Mature trees

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: DeForest Parks and Recreation
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- South half of park floods during heavy rains
- Parking on Gray Road is the only place to park, which is difficult due to ditch

Facility Improvements

- Add new play structure

Wolf Hollow Grosbeak Glen Park

Wolf Hollow Grosbeak Glen Park is located at 4335 Grosbeak Glen, Windsor, WI 53598 and contains 0.26 acres. This park is a Pocket Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the north (Grosbeak Glen) and west (Wolf Hollow Road).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- N/A

Playground Equipment (2008)

- Playstructure: Challenger (coated/age 2-12)
- Sandbox
- Spring toy: chipmunk and turtle
- Swing structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats

Structures

- N/A

Additional Amenities

- Bench (in-ground/coated/with back/black)
- Picnic table (coated)
- Landscaping: 4 small trsess
- Signage (wood)
- Trash receptacle (coated)
- Path access (expanded sidewalk)

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Wasps nest common problem

Facility Improvements

- Add shelter with lighting and electricity
- Add three (3) additional benches
- Expand play area/equipment (age 5-12)

Cradle Hill Park

Cradle Hill Park is located at 4361 Cradle Hill Drive, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 3.40 acres. This park is a Neighborhood Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the south (Cradle Hill Drive), and via easement from the west (to Royal Artis Road).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Basketball court (half court w/ 3 hoops)
- Baseball playfield (backstop/practice field/no bases)
- Soccer playfield (youth)

Playground Equipment (2010)

- EZ Digger
- Playstructure: Challenger (coated/within safe area)
- Sandbox
- Spin cup
- Spring toy: airplane
- Swing structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats (within safe area)

Playground Equipment (2015)

- Tire swing
- Unity Dome
- 4-Car Play Express Train
- Spinami
- Small Triumph Climber

Structures

- Shelter: 25' x 25' w/electric
- Restroom/bathhouse

Aquatic Facilities (2015)

- Splash Pad/Spray Park
 - Shade canopy
 - Benches: 6
 - Shade tables: 3

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 4 (coated/with back/within safe area)
- Bike rack
- Landscaping: approximately 15 small trees
- Picnic table: 2 (coated)
- Signage (wood)
- Path access (asphalt)

Parking

- Parking lot (asphalt/32 spaces)

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth organizations: DeForest Parks and Recreation
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- 100' x 100' area restricted under easement for potential water tower

Facility Improvements

- Add additional landscaping (trees)
- Expand half basketball court to full multi-use basketball/tennis court

Millstone Heights Park

Millstone Heights Park is located at 3842 Sunny Wood Drive, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 3.94 acres. This park is a Neighborhood Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the east (Glenview Court) and south (Sunny Wood Dr), and via easement from the west (Millstone Circle).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Basketball court (quarter court/1 hoop)
- Baseball playfield (small backstop/2 wood benches)
- Soccer playfield (2 goals/U 11-12)

Playground Equipment

- Balance beam (wood)
- Funnel ball
- Playstructure with 2 slides (coated/age 5-12) (2005)
- Playstructure with tire swing (wood/age 5-12) (2000)
- Spring toy: elephant and motorcycle
- Swing structure: 3 adult seats/1 tot seat
- Swing structure: 2 tot seats

Structures

- Shelter

Additional Amenities

- Picnic table (coated)
- Picnic table (wood)
- Signage (wood)
- Restrooms (Port-A-John)
- Foot bridge (wood)
- Path access (partial asphalt)

Parking

- On street

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: Norski Soccer Club, DeForest Parks and Recreation
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing, spray for weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- ADA difficulties: wooden walk bridge with no handrails
- No signage at paved path entrance from Millstone Circle
- No permanent restroom

Facility Improvements

- Upgrade access trail by continuing paved path
- Add new play structure
- Repair or replace wooden walk bridge
- Add 2-4 benches by each play area
- Install entrance sign by path in Millstone Circle

Sunset Meadow Park

Sunset Meadow Park is located at 6786 Windsor Street, Windsor WI 53598 and contains 4.49 acres. This park is a Neighborhood Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the south (Windsor Street) and east via a narrow strip of land (Sunset Meadow Dr).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Soccer field (full size/2 goals)
- Volleyball court (poles/grass)

Playground Equipment

- EZ Digger (within safe area)
- Merry-go-round (within safe area)
- Sandbox (within safe area)
- Slide: Polywave (within safe area) (2000)
- Spring toy: duck and frog (within safe area)
- Swing Structure: 4 adults seats (within safe area) (2003)
- Swing Structure: 2 tot seats (within safe area) (2003)

Structures

- Shelter with electricity/trash receptacle (2004)

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 3 (2 metal/coated, 1 wood along path)
- Picnic table: 3 (coated/1 is ADA accessible)
- Picnic table: 3 (wood)
- Restroom (Port-A-John)
- Signage
- Trash receptacles: 2 (1 metal/1 plastic)
- Path access (asphalt)

Parking

- Shared parking lot with church (ADA access)

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: Norski Soccer Club, DeForest Parks and Recreation
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing, spray weeds, and refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- No play structure
- Volleyball court - grass need to grow out (no sand)

Facility Improvements

- Add new play structure
- Replace 3 picnic tables
- Add permanent restroom

Windsor Gardens Park

Windsor Gardens Park is located at 6654 Covered Bridge Trail, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 and contains 5.00 acres. This park is a Neighborhood Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the west (Covered Trail Bridge) and south (Stepping Stone Circle).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball playfield
 - Backstop
 - Infield fence
 - Dugout bleachers: 2 (aluminum)
- Basketball court (half court/2 hoops)
- Tennis Court (with net)

Playground Equipment (2011)

- EZ Digger
- Play Web (within safe area)
- Playstructure: with 3 slides (within safe area)
- Sandbox
- Skysurfer (within safe area)
- Spring toy: red and tan (within safe area)
- Swing Structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats (within safe area)
- Tire swing (within safe area)
- X Wave: 2 (within safe area)

Structures

- Shelter with electricity

Additional Amenities

- Picnic table: 10 (coated)
- Sign (metal and brick arch)
- Fencing around basketball/tennis courts (chain link)
- Flag pole
- Lighting
- Restrooms (Port-A-John)
- Trash receptacles: 2 (plastic)

Parking

- Parking lot (asphalt/24 spaces/ADA accessible spaces)

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: WD baseball and Windsor Heat softball
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch



Facility Issues & Challenges

- No well or septic for permanent restrooms

Facility Improvements

- N/A

Morrisonville Ball Park

Morrisonville Ball Park is located at 4729 CTH DM, Morrisonville, WI 53571 and contains 5.70 acres. This park is a Community Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the north (Sanderson Street) and east (Willow Street).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Baseball field (large/softball)
 - Aluminum in-ground team bench: 4
 - Backstop
 - Bleacher (wood/5 rows/50 seats)
 - Bleacher: 6 (wood/3 rows)
 - Infield fence
 - Outfield fence
 - Lighting
- Baseball field (small/Little League)
 - Bleacher: 4 (3 rows/wood)
 - Backstop
 - Dugout bleacher: 2 (wood)
 - Dugout storage: 2 (wood)
 - Storage box
 - Infield fence
 - Outfield fence

Playground Equipment (2006)

- Playstructure: Super Dome Climber (within safe area)
- Playstructure: RockBlock Climbing Wall (within safe area)
- Sandbox
- Slide (within safe area)
- Swing structure: 4 adult seats (within safe area)
- Swing structure: 2 tot seats (within safe area)

Structures

- Concession stand with electricity/storage area/trash receptacle
- Shelter with electricity/storage area/restrooms/trash receptacle/water/water fountain

Additional Amenities

- Little Library
- Picnic table: 7 (wood)
- Picnic table (coated)
- Signage (wood)
- Flag pole
- Bench (in-ground/coated/with back/playground)
- Bench (in-ground/aluminum/playground)
- Trash receptacle

Parking

- Parking lot (asphalt/with ADA accessible stalls)



Facility Details

- User groups / Youth organizations: WD Baseball, Adult softball, Windsor Heat softball
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch, diamond preparation

Facility Issues & Challenges

- Concession stand: electrical is outdated, paved floor is cracked and heaving, siding needs to be replaced
- Outfield fence poles have separated from ground

Facility Improvements

- Replace concession stand
- Replace shelter fascia and ceiling
- Replace signage
- Replace eight (8) wood picnic tables

Windsor Firemans Park

Windsor Firemans Park is located at 6711 Park Road, Windsor, WI 53598 and contains 16.48 acres. This park is a Community Park and is accessed via public right-of-way from the north (Park Road) and along the eastern edge (multi-use path).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Pitchers screen: 2 (with batting cage nets) (2007)
- Practice mound (with backstop)
- Baseball playfield (Babe Ruth/265'/lighted)
 - Dugout benches
 - Bleachers (5 row/50 seats/aluminum)
 - Electronic scoreboard
- Baseball playfield: 2 (Little League/200')
 - Electronic scoreboard: 2

Playground Equipment

- Play Structure (2015)
- Swing Structure: 2 adult seats/2 tot seats
- Slide

Structures

- Shelter/Concession stand with electricity
- Storage garage (1990)

Additional Amenities

- Bike rack
- Landscaping: installed by club
- Picnic table 10 (5 coated/5 wood)
- Signage
- Trash receptacle (garbage/recycling)
- Multi-use path access
- Bleacher (wood/near garage)
- Fencing
- Flag pole (with landscaping)
- Memorial monument
- Garage

Parking

- Parking lot (asphalt/ADA accessible stall)

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: WD Baseball, Men's softball, Women's softball
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: Mowing, spray weeks, refresh mulch, diamond preparation; (WD Baseball) annual clean-up day



Facility Issues & Challenges

- No running water in vicinity of concession stand
- No lighting on diamonds 2 & 3
- Parking- No lined spaces
- Fence heaving
- Poor drainage- impacts fields

Facility Improvements

- Extend water service to concession stand
- Repave/stripe parking lot
- Install drain tile between fields 2 and 3 to improve drainage
- Replace five(5) wood picnic tables
- Install aesthetically pleasing French drains

Windsor Sports Commons

Windsor Sports Commons is located at 4174 CTH V, DeForest, WI 53532 and contains 34.98 acres. This park is a Community Park and is accessed via public right-of-way (CTH V).

Facility Summary

Courts and Playfields

- Soccer fields: 6
 - Goal nets
 - Goal fields: 12
 - Goals storage: 8 (4 large/4 small)
- Lacrosse fields: 2

Playground Equipment (2015)

- Playstructure
- Zipline
- Quattro seesaw
- Medium play web

Parking

- Parking lot (gravel/ADA accessible stalls/ADA access from lot)

Structures

- Shelter with concession stand/electricity/restrooms (septic)/storage area/trash receptacle/water (well)/water fountain

Additional Amenities

- Bench: 6 (perforated steel/4 small/2 large)
- Bench: 2 (sun shade)
- Bleachers: 2 (steel)
- Flag pole (with lighting)
- Irrigation: 4" aluminum supply lines
- Landscaping: trees
- Picnic table: 12 (coated/3 ADA accessible)
- Restrooms: Port-A-John
- Scoreboard
- Signage
- Trash receptacles: 6 (plastic)
- Path access (asphalt)

Facility Details

- User groups / Youth Organizations: Norski Soccer, Norski LaCrosse, DeForest Area School District (Boys and Girls Soccer/Cross-County)
- Rental availability
- Maintenance program: (Village) Signage, septic, mowing and spray weeds, refresh mulch, refresh/regrade parking lot gravel; (Clubs) Maintain turf



Facility Issues & Challenges

- Lack of storage
- Wind
- Gravel entrance and parking lot

Facility Improvements

- Add Field lighting
- Pave drive and parking lot
- Add landscaping
- Add bike rack

Holland Fields Conservancy

Holland Fields Conservancy is located on the western edge of the Holland Fields Subdivision and contains approximately 31.95 acres.

Facility Summary

Amenities

- N/A



Facility Details

- N/A

Facility Issues & Challenges

- N/A

Facility Improvements

- N/A

Prairie Creek Conservancy

Prairie Creek Conservancy is located within the Prairie Creek Subdivision and contains approximately 74.81 acres.

Facility Summary

Amenities

- Path



Facility Details

- Maintenance program: Prune trees back as needed from path, maintain asphalt path.

Facility Issues & Challenges

- N/A

Facility Improvements

- Paint center line (yellow lines with skips)

Token Creek Conservancy

Token Creek Conservancy is comprised of multiple components/sites. These include Big Hill (3950 STH 19, DeForest, WI 53532, 51.38 acres), DNR Ponds (6356 Portage Road, DeForest, WI 53532, 5 acres), Old Mill Site (6394 Portage Rd, DeForest, WI 53532, 4.62 acres), Raintree Conservancy (6377 Grossepark Road, Sun Prairie, WI 53590, 4.25 acres), Revere Trails Conservancy (Revere Trails Subdivision, DeForest, WI 53532, 35.36 acres), and the Elmer and Edna Culver Conservancy (3667 Egge Road, DeForest, WI 53532, 90.15 acres).

Facility Summary

Big Hill

- Benches: 15 (Leopold)
- Dock in pond
- Educational signage: 6+ signs
- Kiosk
- Paths
- School District forest
- Shelter with 15 benches

Old Mill Site

- Bat houses
- Benches: 2 (metal), 3 (Leopold)
- Birdhouse
- Fireplace
- Fishing
- Flag pole
- Forest
- Historical cemetery
- Kiosks: 2
- Mineral springs
- Paths
- Pedestrian bridge
- Picnic table
- Shelter (Fall 2015)

Revere Trails Conservancy

- Path

Raintree Conservancy

- Birdhouse
- Mature shade trees: Oak
- Path
- Ponds

Elmer and Edna Culver Conservancy

- Benches: several (Leopold), 1 (memorial)
- Boyscout pedestrian bridge
- Creek
- Dog waste receptacle
- Fishing
- Kiosks: 2
- Mature forest
- Paths
- Picnic tables: 2
- Prairie
- Springs
- Wetlands

DNR Ponds

- Aerators
- Duck houses on river: Several
- Fishing platform
- Shed



Facility Details

- Maintenance and management: Follow the approved policies and guidelines in the Token Creek Conservancy Master Plan to manage the property under the mission of the Token Creek Conservancy.

The Token Creek Conservancy Mission Statement:

- To conserve, preserve, and restore the lands, the natural and diverse habitats and the wildlife of the Token Creek Conservancy.
- To provide low impact recreational and environmental uses
- To manage the site to provide respite, enjoyment and educational activities for our community.
- To protect environmentally sensitive resources in the Token Creek Conservancy and Watershed.
- To advocate the expansion of the Token Creek Conservancy in environmentally sensitive areas, and to support conservation easements to protect environmentally sensitive resources outside of the Conservancy area.

Facility Issues & Challenges

- Increasing public awareness and use of the property has been the main challenge for the Token Creek Conservancy. Significant site improvements, including paths, parking, location and identity signs (with a logo) and promotional material have been used to brand the area.
- The property lacks interconnection in some areas. The challenge to connect the different entrances is hindered primarily by wetland conditions.
- Maintenance of the property for invasive and exotic species consumes a significant portion of the management budget and workload.
- Water quality studies are underway showing significant sources of pollution and contamination.

Facility Improvements

- Study, engineering and bid documents for expansion of path network from Old Mill Site to Big Hill to Revere Trails
- Study and relocate Big Hill access entrance site. Considerations should include access by busses for School District field trips
- Add a shelter at Elmer and Edna Culver Conservancy location
- Add restroom facilities at Old Mill Site & Elmer and Edna Culver Conservancy locations
- Expand and pave parking area and extend pavement from lot to bridge at Old Mill Site
- Restore Raintree Pond
- Add educational signage
- Water quality improvement measures
- Acquire additional land or easements for path network expansion and/or water quality restoration

Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment

This chapter presents information about the existing level of service provided by the park and open space facilities, geographic distribution of park acreage, projected future needs, and results of the public opinion survey on existing and future recreational facilities in the Village.

Park Land Acreage Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) published “Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines” in 1996. Among other things, this document provided recommended ranges for park acreage within communities based on the type of park. These guidelines were:

Park Type	Standard
Pocket Park (Mini Park, Tot Lot)	0.25 to 0.50 acres / 1,000 persons
Neighborhood Park	1 to 2 acres / 1,000 persons
Community Park	5 to 8 acres / 1,000 persons

The NRPA recognizes that a one-size-fits-all approach to park planning isn’t necessarily the best approach and that these guidelines should be adjusted based on individual community factors. These factors might include socio-economic composition and trends, population density, land use patterns, level of urbanization, and municipal budget constraints. The following table compares the existing park acreage per 1,000 persons in Windsor for years 2015 and 2035 (based on population projections). The bottom half of the table also includes currently proposed/approved parks. See the Outdoor Recreation Inventory for a listing of existing and proposed parks by type and acreage.

Existing Parks	Acreage	Acreage/1,000 persons	
		(6,720 pop.) Yr 2015	(8,380 pop.) Yr 2035
Pocket Parks	17.67	2.63	2.11
Neighborhood Parks	16.83	2.50	2.01
Community Parks	57.16	8.51	6.82
Conservancies	297.52	-	-

Existing & Proposed Parks	Acreage	Acreage/1,000 persons	
		Yr 2015	Yr 2035
Pocket Parks	28.31	4.21	3.38
Neighborhood Parks	33.26	4.95	3.97
Community Parks	117.62	17.50	14.04
Conservancies	362.21	-	-

There are 2.63 acres of pocket parks in Windsor per 1,000 persons, which could reach 3.38 by year 2035 based on planned parks and population projections. This is substantially higher than the NRPA baseline of 0.25 to 0.50 acres per 1,000 persons. This is due to the fact that many of Windsor’s pocket parks are larger than a typical tot lot and

provide a greater degree of open space, but don’t necessarily include the amenities of a neighborhood park.

Windsor has 2.50 acres of neighborhood parks per 1,000 persons, which could reach 3.97 acres by 2035 based on planned parks and population projections. This is somewhat higher than the NRPA baseline of 1 to 2 acres per 1,000 persons.

Finally, there are 8.51 acres of community parks per 1,000 persons in Windsor. This number is projected to reach 14.04 acres by 2035 based on planned parks and population projections. Again, this is higher than the NRPA baseline of 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 persons.

Though there are currently 297.52 acres of conservancy in the Village, with a potential for a total of 362.21 including planned conservancies, there is no standard for acreage per population.

Windsor’s previous Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (2007) set a standard for park land of 14.5 acres per 1,000 persons. This total included 1 acre of pocket park/1,000 persons, 4 acres of neighborhood park/1,000 persons, and 9.5 acres of community park/1,000 persons.

The following table shows Windsor’s current standard for park space per 1,000 persons. This represents a 0.5 acre per 1,000 persons increase in the community park category.

Park Type	Standard (per 1,000 persons)
Pocket Parks	1 acre
Neighborhood Parks	4 acres
Community Parks	10 acres
TOTAL	15 acres

Comparison of the Village standard to actual existing and proposed park land is shown in the table below. The year 2015 column shows the existing and currently proposed park land per 1,000 persons. The year 2035 column represents the same existing and proposed park land per 1,000 persons based on the projected population.

Park Type	Standard	Acreage/1,000 persons	
		Yr 2015	Yr 2035
Pocket Parks	1.00	4.21	3.38
Neighborhood Parks	4.00	4.95	3.97
Community Parks	10.00	17.50	14.04
TOTAL	15.00	26.67	21.38

*Year 2015 and 2035 includes both existing and proposed parks.

Pocket Park Acreage Assessment

It’s evident that Windsor has more land devoted to pocket parks than the adopted Village standard. Even if

no additional land was planned, the standard would be exceeded through year 2035. A few of the existing pocket parks are large enough to be considered neighborhood parks if they included appropriate facilities and amenities in the future. This would help balance the mix of park acreages by type to be more in line with the adopted standards.

Neighborhood Park Acreage Assessment

The existing and proposed neighborhood park acreage exceeds the standard of 4 acres per 1,000 persons for the 2015 population, but is just about right for the 2035 population.

Community Park Acreage Assessment

Currently, between existing and proposed parks, Windsor exceeds the adopted standard of 10 acres/1,000 persons. This is largely due to proposed Bear Tree Community Park within the newly approved plat and the recently acquired expansions to Windsor Sports Commons. In light of this, there will be little need for additional community park space in the future.

Service Area Standards

The geographic location of the park and recreational facilities within the Village represents an important functional element related to convenient access and use of parks. As outlined in NRPA standards, parks should be provided within a reasonable distance from residences. Moreover, these guidelines recommend that residents should be able to walk or bicycle to most park facilities without crossing a major arterial, rail line, creek or river drainage, or other barrier. Following are the Village service area standards:

Park Type	Service Area Radius	Arterial Crossings
Pocket Parks	0.25 mile	No
Neighborhood Parks	0.50 mile	Minor Only
Community Parks	1.50 mile	Acceptable

The Park Service Areas Map shows the service area radius for existing and proposed parks in the Village. Most of the residential area within the Village are served by existing and proposed park acreage.

Community Parks

The majority of developed areas within the Village are currently served by existing community parks. However, a good portion of the service area lies within the Village of Deforest, or extends into agricultural lands. Once, the currently planned Bear Tree Community Park is developed, nearly all of the residential neighborhoods, and certainly the most dense residential areas within the Village will be within the service area of a community park. Exceptions include the neighborhoods south of Token Creek and the Windsor

Gardens and Migration Path Estates neighborhoods north of the City of Sun Prairie. It is worth noting, however, that the neighborhoods south of Token Creek are within close proximity of the Token Creek County Park and adjacent to the Token Creek Conservancy.

Neighborhood Parks

A few neighborhood parks are scattered throughout Windsor and there are a couple more planned with proposed development. Though not every developed area will have access to a nearby neighborhood park, there will be a reasonable distribution. Increasing the amount of neighborhood park land to meet Village service standards could be achieved by expanding facilities at one or more of the larger pocket parks in strategic areas according to the Park Service Areas Map.

Pocket Parks

Pocket park acreage is plentiful in Windsor with a wide distribution throughout the Village. The majority of the most dense neighborhoods are within the service area of either a pocket park, a neighborhood park, or both. There are residential areas that are underserved by easily accessible pocket or neighborhood parks which include portions of Lake Windsor, Revere Trails, and neighborhoods south of Token Creek. To clarify, however, these areas do have access to nearby conservancies and other natural features.

Online Survey Results

As part of the process of updating the Windsor Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, an online survey was administered to gather public feedback regarding existing and potential future facilities. The web link was posted on the Village website, emailed to resident’s that were part of the Village E-Notify list, included in a Village newsletter, and distributed through local youth sports organizations.

In total, there were 364 responses to the survey, with 11% of the responses coming from non-residents. Assuming no more than one member of any household in the Village responded to the survey, there was a response rate of roughly 12%. As there were likely cases of multiple responses per household, a more conservative response rate number would be about 10%, which is a typical rate for a voluntary survey of this kind. More importantly, those that responded were well-distributed throughout the Village relative to population in each of the areas identified in the survey. The survey questions and results can be found in the Appendix.x

Following is a summary of findings:

- The most used parks/conservancies during the months of April through October are Windsor Firemen’s Park

(44% of respondents use at least once/month), Prairie Creek Conservancy (44%), Windsor Sports Commons (30%), and Cradle Hill Park (24%). The Token Creek Conservancy was divided into subareas for the purpose of the survey and individual areas range from 8 to 14% of respondents using at least once per month.

- Of Windsor’s existing facilities, the highest priorities for expansion include: paths, restrooms, playground equipment, picnic tables and benches, and pavilions/shelters.
- Of facilities Windsor does not currently provide, the highest priorities include: a splash pad, dog park, dream park (themed play equipment), and outdoor ice skating.
- 78% of respondents use or would use paved multi-use paths at least once per week if located near home.
- 92% of respondents consider efforts to obtain property or easements to link existing paths with parks and neighborhoods somewhat important or very important.
- 97% of respondents consider efforts to maintain open space, restore native areas, protect wildlife, and preserve natural areas as somewhat important or very important.

Multi-Use Paths

One of the most striking results of the online survey was the support for the existing and expanded multi-use path system as mentioned above. In addition, 65% of respondents were satisfied with Windsor Paths, while, 35% were not. In terms of preferred path surface, 78% do/would use paved paths at least once per week if located near home, while 61% do/would use unpaved paths in the same scenario.

With these results in mind, Windsor should focus on creating a network of primarily paved multi-use paths to link neighborhoods with each other, connect park spaces, and connect to the Village of DeForest and City of Sun Prairie and larger region. This will be accomplished through retro-fitting paths within existing neighborhoods, and requiring paths be installed in future neighborhood developments. The Paths Map in the Outdoor Recreation Inventory Chapter includes both the existing and proposed path system. Though the proposed path system is shown precisely on the Paths Map, the actual future location is flexible provided the intended connections are made.

National Recreation and Park Association Report

The National Recreation and Park Association prepares a National Database Report on an annual basis based on more than 500 park agency profiles. The most recent Report is from 2014, and includes detailed data on municipal, county, and state park systems in the U.S. The data is useful as a comparison to similar communities in terms of facility offerings or operation cost per capita for example. Select information from the report is highlighted here for the purpose of general context and comparisons.

The operating and capital expenditures of the park system profiles represented in the report are on average much higher than that of the Village of Windsor, however, general comparisons can still be made. Budgets across most local jurisdictions have tightened over the last six years, but total operating expenses and capital budgets have held fairly constant since 2011. The total operating expenses in the report for 2013 were: \$1,034,033 (lowest quartile), \$3,575,026 (median), and \$8,830,587 (upper quartile). The total capital budgets in 2013 were: \$48,676 (lower quartile), \$506,047 (median), and \$2,542,838 (upper quartile).

Median Jurisdiction Population per Facility, 2013

Facility Type	Population per Facility
Playground	3,840
Baseball/Softball field	3,403
Football/Soccer field	4,242
Tennis courts (outdoor)	4,283
Basketball court (outdoor)	6,644
Recreation/Community center	24,645
Swimming pool (outdoor)	30,376
Community garden	32,529
Dog park	50,852
Golf course	29,631
Swimming pool (indoor)	61,322
Tennis court (indoor)	22,852

Operating Expenses per Acres of Park Maintained, 2013

Acres	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
250 or less	\$6,454	\$16,523	\$34,000
251 to 1,000	\$3,487	\$8,974	\$18,747
1,001 to 3,500	\$1,855	\$4,808	\$6,904
more than 3,500	\$1,213	\$3,001	\$3,846

Miscellaneous Benchmarking Ratios, 2013

Benchmarking Ratios	Median
Operating expenditures per capita	\$77
Operating expenditures per FTE	\$84,859
Operating expenditures per acre of land maintained	\$7,357
Acres of parkland per 1,000 population	9.1
Acres of parkland maintained per FTE	9.1
Total capital plus total operating expenditures per capita	\$90

RESERVED FOR PARK SERVICE AREAS MAP

RESERVED FOR PARK SERVICE AREAS MAP

Recommendations

Park Improvement Designs

As part of the planning process, two existing and two future parks were selected for detailed master plan designs to serve as guides for future improvements. These parks were chosen for their improvement potential and impact to the overall park system.

Windsor Blue Pocket Park

This is a newly dedicated park just under 2 acres in size located in the Windsor Blue Subdivision on Golf Dr just east of the Lake Windsor Golf Club. The new subdivision was previously occupied by a couple of golf holes as part of the Golf Club. As such, the subdivision and new park features ample mature trees. The Master Plan includes:

- Playground
- Open air shelter
- Path connecting the park to Golf Dr and East Oak Ln
- Area for future play court
- Open play area

Cradle Hill Neighborhood Park

Cradle Hill is a 3.40-acre neighborhood park located at the north end of the Holland Fields neighborhood adjacent to the Village of DeForest. This is one of the most-used parks in the Village and currently includes a variety of facilities including a shelter, backstop, basketball half-court and playground equipment. The Village of DeForest is also planning to develop a park directly adjacent to Cradle Hill Park, which will effectively double the size of the park area creating a prominent recreation space for residents. The majority of the planned improvements were completed prior to finalization of this Plan and are included in the profile for Cradle Hill Park. The final engineered design was slightly different from the Master Plan, but the concept remained. The Master Plan included:

- Splash pad / Spray park (the most requested new park facility according to the online survey) and seating areas
- Small bathhouse including the splashpad mechanicals
- Expanded parking
- Expanded playground with benches
- Improved path and landscaping

The park currently includes an easement on the southeast corner of the site for future utilities that will need to be

moved to the north to accommodate the new parking lot and splash pad area.

The existing gravel path connection (north of the easement to Royal Artis Road) to the Village of DeForest will remain unpaved at this time. If the subdivision to the north is replatted to develop a park adjacent to Cradle Hill Park, Windsor will pave this portion of the path. If residential lots remain adjacent, this path segment will be removed.

Bear Tree Farms Community Park

The Final Plat for the Bear Tree Farms Subdivision has been recently approved by the Village of Windsor. In addition to smaller parks, the plat includes a community park of 20.1 acres (including a large wooded area to the southeast of the main park). Located on Pederson Crossing, this community park is situated in an ideal area to serve a wide segment of the existing and new population. The conceptual plan for the park includes a wide variety of uses and amenities:

- Pavilion with restrooms
- Open air pavilion
- Large gathering / multi-purpose areas
- Two playground areas to accommodate age ranges of 2-5 and 5-12 years
- Splash pad / spray park and seating areas
- Sand play area
- Basketball/tennis court
- Youth Soccer Field
- Youth Baseball Backstop/Field
- Volleyball Courts
- Large parking lot with room for expansion
- Paths and landscaping
- Signage

Windsor Sports Commons Community Park Expansion

Windsor Sports Commons is located east of US 51 and north of Muller Rd and currently about 35 acres in area. It is mostly dedicated to soccer and lacrosse, and the Village has recently acquired additional land (40.3 acres) to the north (north of the stormwater management ponds). Though plans for the expansion area are not defined and not currently budgeted for the short term, a concept for the area has been developed as a hypothetical scenario.

This concept for the potential expansion area focuses on a baseball complex that will serve the Windsor-DeForest area.

It also includes potential relocation of Windsor's recycling facility and room for the addition of other public works services in the future. The potential plan includes:

- Four (4) lighted baseball diamonds with backstops, dugouts, fencing and bleachers.
- Pitching/batting cages/nets
- Pavilion with concessions, restrooms, and upper level announcer booths
- Equipment storage structure
- Playground
- Large parking lot with bus drop-off/pick-up/parking
- Relocated recycling facilities



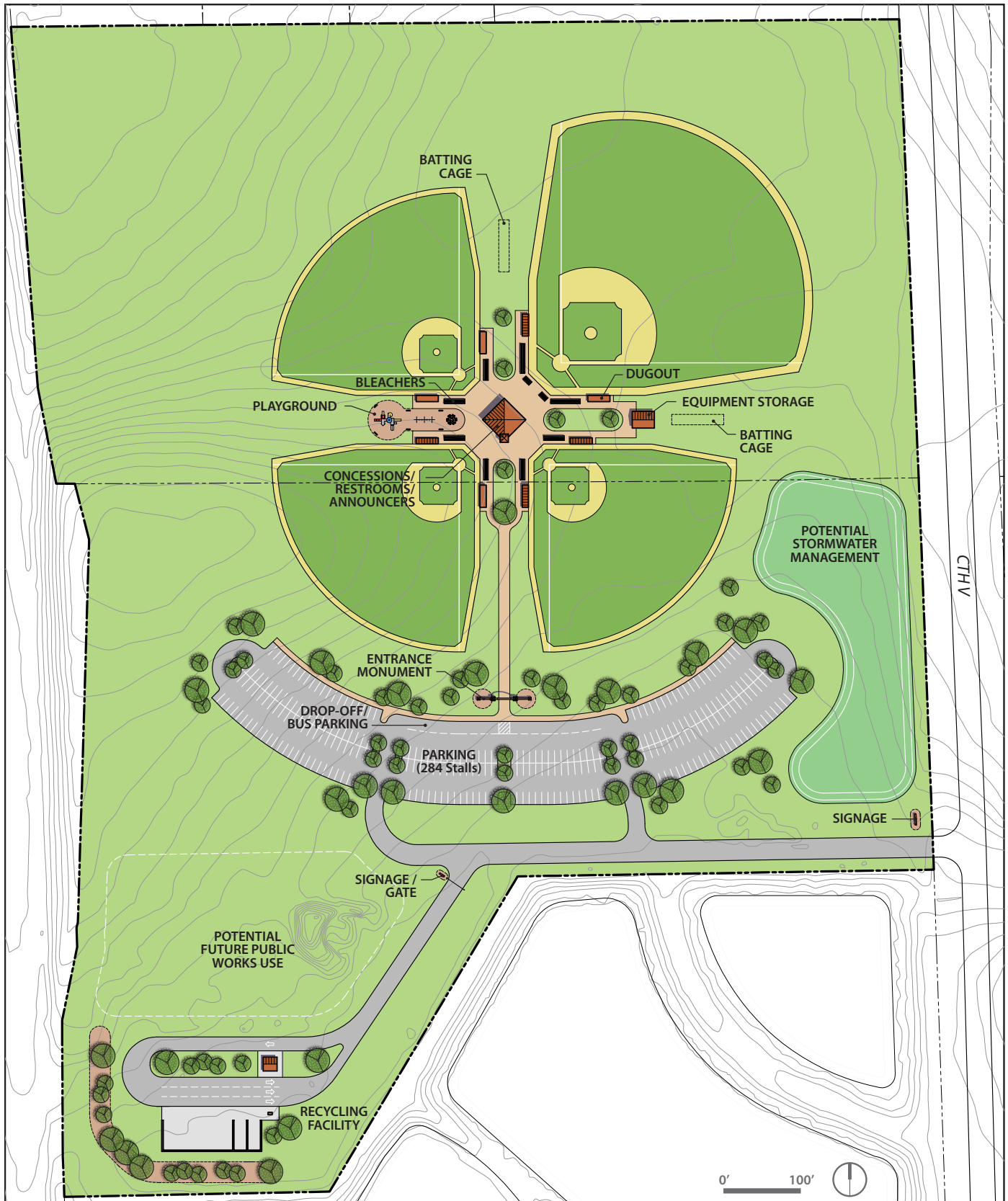
Cradle Hill Neighborhood Park- Proposed Improvements



Bear Tree Community Park (Planned Park)- Proposed Improvements



Windsor Sports Commons Community Park Expansion - Potential Improvements (Not Proposed)



Village of Windsor Outdoor Recreation Capital Improvement Plan

The table on the following pages represents the planned future improvements to the Village of Windsor Park System. Capital improvements are organized by park. The costs of near term improvements (the next 5 years) are distributed by year. Longer term improvements (beyond the next 5 years) are shown in the last column. The last couple of rows compare the total costs by year to the projected Village park capital improvement budget.

Pocket Parks	TOTAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021+
Balsam Bay (pp 20-21)	\$9,300							
Add new entrance signage	\$1,800	-	-	\$1,800	-	-	-	-
Add new shoreline signage	\$1,800	-	-	\$1,800	-	-	-	-
Add bench: 1	\$700		-	\$700	-	-	-	-
Add fishing Pier	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000	-	-	-	-
Bull Run Park (pp 22-23)	\$6,000							
Add safe area border	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-	\$5,000	-
Signage for access path	\$1,000	-	-	\$1,000	-	-	-	-
Kimberly Way Park (pp 24-25)	\$42,700							
Add playground equipment	\$40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$40,000
Add foot bridge	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000	-	-	-	-
Add bench	\$700	-		\$700	-	-	-	-
Morrisonville Childrens Park (pp 26-27)	\$0							
Oak Springs South #1 (pp 28-29)	\$21,000							
Add volleyball poles/net	\$1,000	-	-	-	-	\$1,000	-	-
Add play structure	\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$20,000
Oak Springs North #2 (pp 30-31)	\$47,000							
Add soccer or gym system	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add sign	\$2,000	-	-	-	\$2,000	-	-	-
Add culvert at Meadowwood entrance	\$10,000	-		-	\$10,000	-	-	-
Add play structure	\$35,000	-	-	-	-	-	\$35,000	-
Old Amsterdam Park (pp 32-33)	\$15,400							
Add trash receptacle	\$400	-	-	\$400	-	-	-	-
Add boardwalk	\$15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$15,000
Terrace Park (pp 34-35)	\$111,400							
Add dug out benches	\$2,400	-	\$2,400	-	-	-	-	-
Add bleachers	\$4,000	-	\$4,000	-	-	-	-	-
Skin baseball infield (donation)	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add fencing	\$10,000	-	\$10,000	-	-	-	-	-
Add off-street parking	\$50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$50,000
Add new play structure	\$45,000	-	-	-	\$22,500	\$22,500	-	-
Traveler Trail Park (pp 36-37)	\$0							
Windsor Hill Park (pp 38-39)	\$30,000							
Add new play structure	\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$20,000
Add new safe area	\$10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$10,000
Windsor Meadows Park (pp 40-41)	\$20,000							
Add new play structure	\$20,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$20,000
Wolf Hollow Grosbeak Glen Park (pp 42-43)	\$0	(Note: Parkland dedication fees for future improvements with Board approval.)						
Add shelter w/lighting/electricity	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add seating	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expand play area/equipment	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pocket Parks Subtotal:		\$0	\$16,400	\$13,400	\$34,500	\$23,500	\$40,000	\$175,000

Neighborhood Parks	TOTAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021+
Cradle Hill Park (pp 44-45)	\$0							
Add additional trees	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expand basketball court	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millstone Heights Park (pp 46-47)	\$46,600							
Continue paved path	\$10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$10,000
Add new play structure	\$30,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$30,000
Repair foot bridge	\$2,000	\$2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add benches: 4	\$2,800	\$700	-	\$2,100	-	-	-	-
Add signage	\$1,800	-	-	\$1,800	-	-	-	-
Sunset Meadow Park (pp 48-49)	\$44,500							
Add new play structure	\$40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$40,000
Replace picnic tables: 3	\$4,500	-	-	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	-	-
Add permanent restroom	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Windsor Gardens Park (pp 50-51)	\$0							
Neighborhood Parks Subtotal:		\$2,700	\$0	\$5,400	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$80,000
Community Parks	TOTAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021+
Morrisonville Ball Park (pp 52-53)	\$48,000							
Replace concession stand	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	-	-	-	-	-
Replace shelter fascia and ceiling	\$5,000	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Replace signage	\$1,800	-	-	-	-	\$1,800	-	-
Replace picnic tables: 8	\$11,200	-	-	-	-	\$11,200	-	-
Windsor Firemans Park (pp 54-55)	\$12,000							
Extend water to concession stand	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repave/stripe parking lot	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add drain tile between fields 2 & 3	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000	-	-	-	-
Replace picnic tables: 5	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add French drains	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Windsor Sports Commons (pp 56-57)	\$2,450							
Add field lighting	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pave drive and parking lot	\$0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add landscaping	\$2,000	-	-	\$2,000	-	-	-	-
Add bike rack	\$450	\$450	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Parks Subtotal:		\$20,450	\$15,000	\$14,000	\$0	\$13,000	\$0	\$0
Conservancies (Managed by Park Commission)	TOTAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021+
Holland Fields Conservancy (p 58)	\$0							
Prairie Creek Conservancy (p 59)	\$0							
Paint center line		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Park Commission Conservancy Subtotal:		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOWN BUDGET	\$228,000	\$33,000	\$35,000	\$37,000	\$39,000	\$41,000	\$43,000	\$0
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$456,350	\$23,150	\$31,400	\$32,800	\$36,000	\$38,000	\$40,000	\$255,000
DIFFERENCE	(\$228,350)	\$9,850	\$3,600	\$4,200	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	(\$255,000)

Conservancies (Managed by TC Conserv. Comm.)	TOTAL	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021+
Token Creek Conservancy (pp 60-62)	\$317,000							
Trail expan. study (Old Mill to Revere Trails)	\$5,000	-	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	-
Big Hill access relocation study	\$7,000	-	\$7,000	-	-	-	-	-
Add shelter at Elmer & Edna Culver Conser.	\$70,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$70,000
Add restrooms at Old Mill Site	\$20,000	-	-	-	-	\$20,000	-	-
Expand /pave parking & pave walk to bridge	\$20,000	-	-	-	\$20,000	-	-	-
Restore Raintree Pond	\$35,000	-	\$35,000	-	-	-	-	-
Add educational signage	\$10,000	-	-	\$10,000	-	-	-	-
Water quality improvement	\$50,000	-	-	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Acquire additional land (trails/water quality)	\$100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$100,000
Token Creek Conservancy Committee Subtotal:		\$0	\$47,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$180,000

Implementation / Action Plan

In addition to the specific park improvements planned within this document, the Village should focus on the following overall recommendations:

Reinvest in existing parks

The amount of existing park space and land proposed as park space as part of pending developments is generally adequate to meet the Village's needs for the next 20 years. In addition, parks are/will be well distributed throughout the Village in relation to concentrations of population. The Village should focus on investing in existing parks including the replacement of aging facilities and improving facility offerings to meet the needs of the population.

Limit the number of new parks

In tandem with the above recommendation, aside from parks currently proposed as part of upcoming subdivisions, the Village should limit the number of new parks over the next 20 years. Opportunities where a new neighborhood or community park would offer unique recreational amenities or expanded sports facilities should still be considered, particularly if developed in joint partnership with the Village of DeForest or the DeForest Area School District.

Consider updating the Village Land Division Ordinance

Currently, the Village of Windsor's Land Division Ordinance requires dedication of park land in the amount of 4,356 square feet (0.10 acre) or a fee in lieu of land per new residential dwelling unit (Sec. 38-636 and 38-637). In addition, park improvements fees are required based on dwelling unit type (Section 38-639). In light of the focus on improving existing parks within the Village, the Village Board should consider re-evaluating these sections within the Land Division Ordinance to require less park land (or fees in lieu) in favor of greater park improvement fees.

Regularly update the Park Profiles

The Village should review and revise each Park Profile as part of Parks and Recreation Committee annual tour of the Windsor parks. Details regarding the facility summary, details, issues and challenges, and improvements and costs should be updated, incorporated, and/or removed as deemed necessary by the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Regularly update the Capital Improvement Plan

The Village should review and revise the Capital Improvement Plan on an annual basis to ensure that the planned improvements over the near term match the current Village objectives and projected budgets. In addition, the Capital Improvement Plan should regularly be adjusted to focus on the upcoming 5-year period.

Pursue grant opportunities where applicable

The Village should annually monitor available grant opportunities for potential matches with planned Village improvements. The following section outlines the Stewardship Grant opportunities administered through the State of Wisconsin.

Stewardship Program Grants

The WDNR administers four Stewardship grant programs and two related federal programs. The annual application deadline is May 1 for each grant program.

Eligible local governments are only those towns, villages, cities, counties and tribal governments that have a DNR accepted comprehensive outdoor recreation plan or master plan which has been approved by resolution by the local governing unit. A county outdoor recreation plan that has been adopted by the town, village or city and that contains sufficient detail related to the grant project may also satisfy the plan requirement. Local governments with qualifying plans receive eligibility to apply for grants for up to five years.

Eligible projects must provide public access for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes. "Nature based outdoor recreation" means hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, cross country skiing and other activities where the primary focus or purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. These other activities may include, but are not limited to, hiking, bicycling, wildlife or nature observation, camping, nature study, fishing, hunting, picnicking, cross-country skiing, canoeing and multi-use trails activities.

Support facilities for these activities may include, but are not limited to, access roads, parking areas, camping facilities, support facilities for swimming in a natural water body, habitat restoration, utility and sanitation systems, sanitary and shelter buildings, signs, interpretive items, fencing and lighting for the protection of users and other features that enhance nature-based outdoor recreation and/or improve disabled accessibility.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited to land purchases, development and renovation projects for the purposes of nature-based outdoor recreation, trails (maintenance, restoration, construction, and property acquisition), and development and renovation of support facilities.

Ineligible projects include, but are not limited to, land acquired through condemnation, purchasing land and development not related to nature-based outdoor recreation, lands dedicated through a park land dedication ordinance, buildings used primarily for operation and maintenance, lands that have restrictions that prevent or limit the property from being managed for public

outdoor recreation, indoor recreation, and environmental remediation.

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship local assistance grant programs

- Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)
- Urban Green Space (UGS) grants
- Urban Rivers (UR) grants
- Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR)

Federal recreation grant programs

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Recreational Trails Act (RTA)

Department of Natural Resources regional grant staff review and rate eligible projects using a set of rating questions that reflect each program's goals and priorities. The projects within each program are then combined in a statewide listing and prioritized according to rating score. Projects ranking the highest are awarded grant; to the extent that funds are available.

Refer to the Wisconsin DNR website for more information:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/grants/>.

Appendix

Online Survey Results